IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

RYDER TRUCK RENTAL, INC.	§
	§
Plaintiff	§
v.	§
	8 1:11-01-476
STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL	\$ CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:16-CV-476
INSURANCE COMPANY AKA STATE	§
AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES	§
	§
Defendant	§

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY (hereinafter "State Auto" or "Defendant"), and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(a), 1441, and 1446(a), files this Notice of Removal of a civil action filed in the 200th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, entitled *Ryder Truck Rental, Inc. v. State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company aka State Auto Insurance Companies*, Cause No. D-1-GN-16-001023, and in support thereof, would respectfully show the Court as follows:

I.

Plaintiff Ryder Truck Rental, Inc. ("Plaintiff" or "Ryder") filed the above action on March 9, 2016 in state court. The citation and petition were served on State Auto on March 16, 2016. Attached to this Notice as Exhibit 1 is an Appendix/Index of State Court Pleadings. True and correct copies of the state court docket, as well as the petition, citation, and answer, which constitute all process, pleadings, and orders served in the action, are appended to the Appendix/Index of State Court Pleadings as Exhibits A through D. This Notice of Removal is

filed within one year of commencement of this action and within 30 days of Defendant's receipt of the petition and is therefore timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).

II.

The district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction over this action based on diversity of citizenship among the parties under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, in that every Defendant is now and was at the time the action commenced diverse in citizenship from Plaintiff. This Court has original jurisdiction as the federal district court for the district and division in which the action is pending, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 124(a)(2). Defendant is not and was not at the time the action commenced a citizen of the State of Texas.

Plaintiff's Original Petition, attached hereto as Exhibit B to Exhibit 1, states that Plaintiff is a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business in Florida, and is "licensed to do business in the State of Texas." Ex. B to Ex. 1 at 1. Plaintiff Ryder was at the time the action commenced and is now a citizen of the States of Delaware and Florida and of no other state.

Plaintiff's Original Petition further states that Defendant State Auto "is a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Ohio with <u>a</u> place of business [in] Austin, Texas." Ex. B to Ex. 1 at 1 (emphasis added). State Auto was at the time the action commenced and is now a citizen of Ohio, with its place of incorporation and principal place of business in Ohio, and of no other state.

The amount in controversy exceeds, exclusive of interest and costs, the sum of \$75,000, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). Plaintiff's Original Petition states a claim against Defendant in the amount of \$80,164.70. Ex. B to Ex. 1 at 2-4.

III.

Removal of this action is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1441 because it is a civil action brought in state court and the federal district courts have original jurisdiction over the subject matter under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as Plaintiff and Defendant are diverse in citizenship.

IV.

Defendant did demand a trial by jury in state court.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332 and 1441 and in conformance with the requirements set forth in 28 U.S.C. § 1446, remove this action for trial from the 200th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas to this Court. The clerk of the 200th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas has been provided with notice of this removal.

Respectfully submitted,

NAMAN HOWELL SMITH & LEE, PLLC

/s/ Charles B. Mitchell, Jr.
CHARLES B. MITCHELL, JR.
State Bar No. 14207000
Federal ID No.: 16627
LINDSAY P. DANIEL
State Bar No. 24082894
405 Fort Worth Club Building
306 West 7th Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4911
Telephone: (817) 509-2040

Facsimile: (817) 509-2060

Email: Charles.mitchell@namanhowell.com

Email: LDaniel@namanhowell.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this the Hay of April, 2016, a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon all counsel of record in this action, in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure by ECF Filing, facsimile, and/or certified mail, return receipt requested properly addressed to:

Macon D. Strother
The Strother Law Firm
2990 Richmond Ave., Suite 213
Houston, TX 77098
mstrother@strotherlawfirm.com

/s/ Charles B. Mitchell, Jr. CHARLES B. MITCHELL, JR.

Exhibit 1

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS AUSTIN DIVISION

RYDER TRUCK RENTAL, INC.	§
	§
Plaintiff	§
v.	§
	<u> </u>
STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL	§ CIVIL ACTION NO.
INSURANCE COMPANY AKA STATE	<u> </u>
AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES	§
	§
Defendant	§

APPENDIX/INDEX OF STATE COURT PLEADINGS

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

A.	Travis County District Court Civil Docket Sheet and case summary	
	of all pleadings and documents filed in Cause No. D-1-GN-16-	
	001023	
B.	Plaintiffs' Original Petition	3/9/2016
C.	Executed return Citation regarding execution of service on	3/16/16
	Defendant State Auto Property and Casualty Insurance Company	
	evidencing service on 12/29/14	
D.	Defendant State Auto Property and Casualty Insurance Company's	4/8/16
	Original Answer, Special Denials, Special Exceptions, Affirmative	
	Defenses and Jury Demand	

Exhibit A

(https://www.traviscountytx.gov)

District Clerk - AARO - Attorney Access to Records Online

Details

Updated: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 5:09:55 AM

Cause Number

D-1-GN-16-001023

Style

RYDER TRUCK V STATE AUTOMOBILE

Filed Date

3/9/2016 Court

200

Type

BREACH OF CONTRACT (GEN LIT)

Case Status

PENDING

Action/Offense

Hearing Date

 $Request\ Documents\ (/aaro/Content/record_search_$

New Search (/aaro/)

Attorney	Type	Party - Full/Business	Party - Person
MITCHELL CHARLES	DEFENDANT	STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY	
BENNETT			
STROTHER MACON D	PLAINTIFF	RYDER TRUCK RENTAL INC	

Date	Court	Party	Description	Category	Pages	
4/8/2016	200	DF	ORIGINAL ANSWER	ANS-RESP	3	Download (/aaro/Default/GetPdf? barCodeId=4526857)
3/23/2016	200	DF	EXECUTED SERVICE	SRVPROCESS	2	Download (/aaro/Default/GetPdf? barCodeId=4497689)
3/10/2016	200	DF	ISS:CITATION	ISSUANCE	0	PDF not available
3/9/2016	200	PL	EXPEDITE ORIG PET RULE 169	PET-PL	16	Download (/aaro/Default/GetPdf? barCodeId=4477491)

Request Documents (/aaro/Content/record_search_fillable.pdf)

New Search (/aaro/)

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Exhibit B

3/9/2016 10:11:07 AM

CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-16-001023

Velva L. Price District Clerk Travis County D-1-GN-16-001023 Marco Rubio

RYDER TRUCK RENTAL, INC.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT AT LAW

PLAINTIFF,

8

 \mathbb{V} .

OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY AKA STATE AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES

\$ \$

DEFENDANT.

200th JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

Plaintiff Truck Rental, Inc. ("Plaintiff"), files its Original Petition against State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company aka State Auto Insurance Companies (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant"):

1. Discovery is intended to be conducted as a Level 2 of Rule 190 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure.

PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff is a corporation duly existing under the laws of the State of Delaware with a principal place of business at 11690 Northwest 105th Street, Miami, Florida 33178. Plaintiff is licensed to do business in the State of Texas.
- 3. Defendant is a corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Ohio, with a place of business at 5918 West Courtyard Drive, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78730.

CAUSES OF ACTION

4. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all facts stated above. Plaintiff entered into Truck Rental Agreement ("Rental Agreement") with Venture Logistics, Inc. ("Venture") pursuant to which

Plaintiff rented Venture a certain vehicle. A true and correct copy of the Rental Agreement is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference.

- 5. Pursuant to the Rental Agreement, Venture entered into certain agreements with Defendant to obtain and have bound proper insurance coverage for the vehicles rented from Plaintiff. Such coverage was to include automobile physical damage insurance coverage for the vehicle. Plaintiff is an additional loss payee under Venture's insurance policy with Defendant. A true and correct copy of the Certificate of Liability Insurance ("COI") is attached hereto as **Exhibit B** and incorporated by reference.
- 6. On or about May 23, 2014, Plaintiff's vehicle number 449161, rented by Venture, was involved in an accident wherein the vehicle was damaged. Plaintiff filed a claim for the payment of damages to the vehicle to Defendant in the amount of \$80,164.70.
- 7. Defendant failed and refused to pay the claim for damage to Venture's vehicle as required by the COI.
- 8. Despite demands by Plaintiff upon Defendant for payment, Defendant refused, continues to refuse and has failed to pay the amounts owed. Plaintiff has been damaged in the amount of \$80,164.70, plus interest thereon, as shown in the itemized and verified Statement of Account, which is attached as Exhibit C and incorporated by reference.
- 9. Plaintiff has applied all just and lawful offsets, payments and credits, if any, to Defendant' account and amount owing.
- 10. Plaintiff has been required to retain the services of an attorney to commence this action and is entitled to attorney's fees and costs.

BREACH OF INSURANCE CONTRACT

- 11. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all facts stated above. There is a valid and existing insurance contract between Plaintiff, as additional loss payee, and Defendant, as insurer.
- 12. Plaintiff performed under the contract. Defendant breached the contract by refusing to properly compensate Plaintiff. Defendant failed to pay and therefore breached the agreement, and Plaintiff has suffered damages in the amount of \$80,164.70.

BREACH OF IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING

- 13. Plaintiff incorporates by reference all facts stated above. There is implied in every contract a covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
 - 14. Plaintiff and Defendant entered into a valid and existing insurance agreement.
 - 15. Defendant owed Plaintiff a duty of good faith and fair dealing.
- 16. Defendant breached its duty of good faith and fair dealing by refusing to properly compensate Plaintiff. Such conduct on the part of Defendant was willful, wanton, malicious, wrongful and otherwise in disregard to Plaintiff's rights.
- 17. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing by Defendant, Plaintiff has suffered damages in the amount of \$80,164.70.

CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

18. Pursuant to Rule 54 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, all conditions precedent to Plaintiff's recovery and other relief requested herein have been performed or have occurred.

ATTORNEY'S FEES

19. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff has been compelled to employ the services of the

undersigned counsel and firm and has agreed to reasonable fees for their services. Plaintiff is

entitled to a judgment for said attorney's fees and, in this respect, alleges its compliance with all

other prerequisites established by law. Additionally, this case is based in whole or in part upon an

oral written contract, services rendered. sworn account and for

TEX.CIV.PRAC&REM.CODE '38.001, Plaintiff seeks to recover its reasonable attorney's fees

from Defendant and attorney's fees for all necessary appeals to other courts.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays Defendant, be cited to appear

and file answer, and that on final hearing Plaintiff has judgment of and from Defendant in the

amount of \$80,164.70, together with interest thereon at the maximum rate allowed by law,

reasonable attorney's fees including but not limited to attorney's fees for an appeal to the Court of

Civil Appeals and the Texas Supreme Court, costs of court, and such other and further relief to

which Plaintiff may show itself to be justly entitled.

Dated: 3/8/16

Respectfully submitted,

THE STROTHER LAW FIRM

/s/ Macon D. Strother

MACON D. STROTHER

State Bar No. 19420000

2990 Richmond Ave., Suite 213

Houston, Texas 77098

(713) 557-9238 (Telephone)

mstrother@strotherlawfirm.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

OF COUNSEL: John T. Siegler ASK, LLP 2600 Eagan Woods Dr., Suite 400

Eagan, MN 55121
Telephone: 651-406-9665
Telecopier: 651-406-9676

EXHIBIT A

CUSTOMER REFERENCE NUMBER: 0768200326566

RENTAL AGREEMENT NUMBER **CLIENT ACCOUNT NUMBER: 282868**

Rental Eduation/Contack information (1994) Hours of Operation and additional information Ryder Truck Rental and Leasing Mon - Fri: 6:00 AM-5:00 PM 1220 POLK AVENUE Saturday: 8:00 AM-12:00 AM Ryder Rental Guarantes NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, 37210 Sunday : Closed Phone Number: 6152541969 24/7 Roadside Assistance: 866-477-0438 : Christopher Rittenhour Salos Rep Customer Service : 1-800-947-9337 Area Manager: PHILLIP MOIX Phillip_Moix@ryder.com

WITH FUEL FUEL 14 ** ACTIVITY DATE : 05/21/14 ** CUST RRF #: 0768200326566 DRIVER INFORMATION. . ---VENTURE LOGISTICS INC DUE: 05/20/14 1101 HARDING CT OUT: 05/21/14 17:28 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46217-9531 ODOM OUT: 2 2 5 4 4 4 CONTACT: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE P.O. No. 1 TH-2920 Ord By: TYLER DIRICO/PAT VEHICLE DESCRIPTION: RATES AND CHARGES: *** WITH FUEL *** TACS PREMIUM/CONDO Daily Rental 9 9 136.05/D -\$ Wackly Rantal Liconse D: C6599HY Milosgo RALa 9 8 0.1100/M -9 States TN Sub-Total Rental GCW/GVW:80000 1bs (*) Salos Tax 0 9.254 ** Special Rate: No Other Discounts Apply ** TOTAL RENTAL CHARGES Waste Dap.-Gupplies \$ 49.00

Name 07/3 46 34 2 State: 77 Expiration: 10-4/2014 S.S. #: 222-84-2/96	Name (Times (d)	Pight
Expiration: 10-4/2019	DL:#	07134639	\$ 2
		The	a 54.66
			2191

lants to provide Limbility fretoction as specified in Percention 5.8. of this Agree

rehiates (i) trip rewards for all allos/kms operated and (ii) fuel timber for all fuel purchased, You agree to pay Aydar a surcharge of 450,2000

Cargo Contenta : FREIGHT

Manual Reference Number: 0

Corrections# : 00

USDOT Number : 911759

Intrastata - No Hazardous Material

EXHIBIT B

MAY-06-2014 10:46

From: 54,7726109

Page:2/2

Date: 5/6/2014 Time: 10:40 AM To: 5137726109 M J Insurance 317-805-7500 Page: 02

Cliont#: 7475

VENTLOG

ACORD.

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

5/05/2014

THIS CERTIFICATE IS (3SUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT SETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the conditions is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(les) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER	The state of the s	SONIACY Marty Prevost	
MJ Insurance, Inc.		(NE, No, Ent) 317 805-7630	TAX No. 317 805-7515
PO Box 50435		Appress; marty.prevost@mlinsuran	(A/C, No) 0 11 003-1313
Indianapolis, IN 46250-0435			
317 808-7800		INSURER A Harleysville Worcester In	
Ventura Logistics, Inc.	Manager and the second second second second second	INSURER B State Automobile Mutual	
Augusta Equipment Leasing,	ELC	INSURER C:	
PO Box 78008		INSURER D.	
indianapolis, IN 46268	00372-292436	INSURAR F	

CERTIFICATE NUMBER REVISION NUMBER: THIS IS TO CURTIFY THAT THE POLICES OF INSURANCE LIBITIO RELOW HAVE BEEN ESTIFFD TO THE INSURED MAMED ASOVE FUR THE FOLICY PERIOD INDICATED NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR CYMER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED UM MAY PERTAIN. THE INSURANCE AFFONDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HERRIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS. EXCHIBIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES, LIMITH SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAMS ADDL SUGA POLICY SEE POLICY CAP TYPE OF INSURANCE POLICY NUMBER GENGRAL LIABILITY MPA00000024007B 11/01/2013 11/01/2014 DACH OCCURRENCE 11,000,000 X, COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY PAMAGE RICH MOUNTENSEL 1500,000 . CLAIMS-MAUR : X OCCUR 115,000 ASTO TWO JANY ON DOTAGE) 11,000,000 PERSONAL A ADVINGINY 12,000,000 CENERAL AGGREGATE CIENT AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PETE PRUBLICAS - COMP. OP AUG \$2,000.000 POD ICY PRO-B AUTOMOBILE WASILITY COMBINED RINGLE LIMP 05/01/2014 06/01/2015 BAP233695702 1,000,000 WAY ALLIO BODILY INJURY (For person) X ALL DWNEN SCHEDULF() BOOILY INJUNY (PER AUXIDAL) CHOPENTY DAVAGE HIRED AUTOR UMBRELLA LIAB OCCUR PACH OCCURRENCE BALL RESTAR CLAMAS MADE STABSHINA ٠. DED RETENTION & AND REPLOYERS, FIVEITLLA WAY PROPULETO SPARTNISTEXUCITIVE LA HACH ACCIDENT (Mandatory in NH) AL DIBEASH . EN EMPLOYER \$ If you describe under OPERATIONS frame EL DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT TRUCKERS PHYSICAL 08/01/2014 05/01/2015 COMP/GOLL BAP233696702 DAMAGE

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES INTUIN ACORD 161: Additional Remarks Schadule 11 more opace in required)
The Certificate Holder and others as defined in the written agreement and the Auto Liability and Physical Darnage coverage additional insured-Lessor and Loss Payee Endorsement CA2001 03 66 are included as additional insured-lessor and loss payee subject to the terms, conditions and exclusions on the policy.

COMP/COLL DEDUCTIBLE: \$2,500 (See Attached Descriptions)

EXHIBIT C

Ryder Truck Rental Inc

8/28/2015

Page 1



Ryder Truck Rental, Inc. 6000 Windward Parkway Alpharetta, GA 30005

August 28, 2015

State Auto Insurance Co 518 E Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Invoice Date	Invoice Number	Inv	oice Amount
01/30/15	3090485366	\$	80,164.70
Total		\$	80,164.70



Invoice

Page 1



3090-035699 VENTURE LOGISTICS INC ACCOUNTS PAYABLE 1101 HARDING CT INDIANAPOLIS, IN.

Invoice number: Customer number: 00716-282868

485366

District number:

3090

NASHVILLE

YOU CAN GO GREEN RIGHT NOW GET PAPERLESS INVOICES AT RYDER.COM/INVOICE

Payment due

02/09/15

Remit to: Ryder Transportation Services P.O. BOX 96723 Chicago, IL. 60693-6723 Phone: 800-947-9337

Please indicate the Invoice number 485366 on your remittance

Total due

\$84,264.70

Summary of charges

	Vehiale	Other*	Total
Tractors	449161	84,264.70	84,264.70
	Traotor total	84,264.70	84,264.70
907			·
	Total charges	84,264.70	\$84,264.70

^{*} Other may include accident charges, service and repairs, accessory charges, customer vehicle fuel, miscellaneous charges, credits, interstate fuel tax and estimated fuel

Parts, labor and outside services are billed per Ryder's ourrent physical damage procedures.

News from Ryder

Please send all non payment and address change information to: Ryder Shared Service Center - Customer Care 6000 Windward Parkway Alpharetta, Ga 30005

Ryder reports monthly to several credit reporting agenoies,

Thank you for your business.

VENTURE LOGISTICS INC January 30, 2015

Reference - Accident

Page 3 Invoice 485366 District 3090

449161

TACS PREMIUM/CONDO



Accident number: Accident date: 000140068 05/23/14

Physical damage deductible

84,264.70

To invoice you for rental unit 449161 that caught fire and burned on 05/23/14.

00395 939-00 rpm

Total accident charges

\$84,264.70

Total vehicle charge

\$84,264.70

Thank you for doing business with Ryder!

Exhibit C

Case 1:16-cv-00476-LY Document 1 Filed 04/14/16 Page 25 of 30 3/23/2016 1:32:59 AM

C I T A T I O N
T H E S T A T E O F T E X A S

Velva L. Price District Clerk Travis County D-1-GN-16-001023 Terri Juarez

CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-16-001023

RYDER TRUCK RENTAL, INC.

, Plaintiff

VS.

Original

STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY A/K/A STATE AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES

, Defendant

P01 - 000038503

TO: STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY A/K/A STATE AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES 5918 WEST COURTYARD DRIVE, SUITE 100

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78730

Defendant, in the above styled and numbered cause:

Service Copy

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

Attached is a copy of the <u>PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION</u> of the <u>PLAINTIFF</u> in the above styled and numbered cause, which was filed on <u>MARCH 9, 2016</u> in the <u>200TH JUNICIAL DISTRICT COURT</u> of Travis County, Austin, Texas.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of said Court at office, March 12 2016.

REQUESTED BY:
D STROTHER MACON
2290 RICHMOND AVE., SUITE 213
HOUSTON, TX 77098
BUSINESS PHONE: (713) 557-9238
FAX:

Velva L. Price
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, TX 78701

	PREPARED BY: RUBIO MARCO
Came to hand on the day of,	
on theday of	
in person, a true copy of this citation together with accompanying pleading, having first attached such copy and endorsed on such copy of citation the date of del	by of such citation to such copy of pleading
Service Fee: \$	Sheriff / Constable / Authorized Person
Sworn to and subscribed prore me this the	SEE ATTACHED
day of	Printed Name of DAVIT
Notary Public, THE STATE OF TEXAS	County, Texas
D-1-GN-16-001023	IT ENTER MADE THE THE

SERVICE FEE NOT PAID

CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-16-001023

Ryder Truck Rental, Inc.	5	IN THE DISTRICT COURT AT LAW
	5	
Plaintiff,	5	
VS.	5	OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
	5	•
State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company aka	5	
State Auto Insurance Companies		
Defendant.	5	200TH IUDICIAL DISTRICT

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

On this day personally appeared Corrina Hart who, being by me duly sworn, deposed and said:

"The following came to hand on MARCH 16, 2016 AT 4:00 PM,

D-1-GN-16-001023 PETITION.PDF, D-1-GN-16-001023 CITATION PDF,

and was executed at 211 E. 7th St. #620, Austin, TX 78701 within the county of TRA 15 at 10:55 AM on Thu, Mar 17, 2016, by delivering a true copy to the within named

STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY AKA STATE AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES BY SERVING ITS
REGISTERED AGENT, CT CORPORATION SYSTEM

in person, having first endorsed the date of delivery on same.

I am a person over eighteen (18) years of age and I am competent to make this affidavit. I am a resident of the State of Texas. I am familiar with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure as they apply to service of Process. I am not a party to this suit nor related or affiliated with any herein, and have no interest in the outcome of the suit. I have never been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein and they are true and correct."

Corrina Hart

SCH10838 EXP 03/31/2017

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public, on this day personally appeared Corrina Hart, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing document and, being by me first duly sworn, declared that the statements therein contained are within his or her personal known alge and are true and correct.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO ME ON 03/17/2016

MOTARY Public, State of Texas

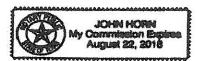


Exhibit D

Case 1:16-cv-00476-LY Document 1 Filed 04/14/16 Page 28 of 30

4/8/2016 4:55:50 PM

Velva L. Price District Clerk Travis County D-1-GN-16-001023 Jonathan Sanders

CAUSE NO. D-1-GN-16-001023

RYDER TRUCK RENTAL, INC.	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	200 th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
	§	
STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL	§	
INSURANCE COMPANY AKA STATE	§	
AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES	§	TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

ORIGINAL ANSWER OF DEFENDANT STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company ("Defendant"), Defendant in the above referenced and numbered cause, and files its Original Answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition, and in support thereof, would respectfully show the Court as follows:

I. GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant hereby enters a general denial, as is permitted by Rule 92 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, and requests that Plaintiff be required to prove, by a preponderance of the evidence, the charges and allegations which Plaintiff has made against Defendant, as is required by the law and the Constitution of the State of Texas.

II. SPECIFIC DENIALS

Defendant expressly denies that Plaintiff has complied with all conditions precedent for the bringing of this action as contained in the policy of insurance sued upon.

III. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Defendant further states by way of affirmative defense, if such be necessary, the terms and conditions of the policy.

Defendant further states by way of affirmative defense, if such be necessary, that Defendant did not breach the insurance contract.

Defendant further states by way of affirmative defense, if such be necessary, Defendant is not liable to Plaintiff because the conditions precedent for recovery under the subject policy have not been satisfied.

IV. JURY DEMAND

Defendant hereby demands a trial by jury.

V. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, for all of the reasons set forth above.

Defendant prays that:

- 1. It be dismissed from this action and discharged from all liability to Plaintiff:
- 2. It recover its costs of Court expended in its behalf; and
- 3. For such other and further relief to which it may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

NAMAN HOWELL SMITH & LEE, PLLC

/s/ Charles B. Mitchell, Jr. CHARLES B. MITCHELL, JR. State Bar No. 14207000 Federal ID No.: 16627 LINDSAY P. DANIEL State Bar No. 24082894 405 Fort Worth Club Building 306 West 7th Street Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4911 Telephone: (817) 509-2040

Facsimile: (817) 509-2060

Email: Charles.mitchell@namanhowell.com

Email: LDaniel@namanhowell.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT STATE AUTOMOBILE MUTUAL **INSURANCE COMPANY**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was served upon all counsel of record in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, on the 8th day of April, 2016.

Via E-Service Macon D. Strother The Strother Law Firm 2990 Richmond Ave., Suite 213 Houston, TX 77098 mstrother@strotherlawfirm.com

> /s/ Charles B. Mitchell, Jr. CHARLES B. MITCHELL, JR.